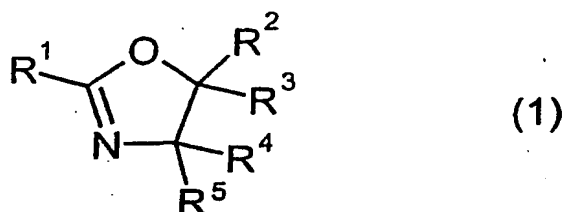


Patent claims

1. A method for the preparation of esters from alcohols and olefinically
5 unsaturated carboxylic acids by reacting an alcohol with an olefinically
unsaturated carboxylic acid or a reactive derivative thereof, from 1 ppm to 1%
by weight, based on the weight of the reaction mixture comprising alcohol and
olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid/carboxylic acid derivative, of at least
one oxazoline of the formula 1

10



- in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen or branched, straight-chain,
cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radicals having up to 25 carbon
15 atoms which may be substituted by heteroatoms, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵
may be identical or different, being present.

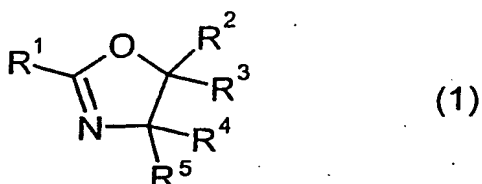
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵,
independently of one another, are hydrogen or hydrocarbon radicals having
20 from 1 to 12 carbon atoms.

3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵,
independently of one another, are hydrogen or methyl groups.

- 25 4. The method as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 3, wherein
R¹ is methyl
R² and R³ are hydrogen
R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen or methyl.

- 30 5. The method as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 3, wherein the
oxazolines of the formula 1 are used in amounts of from 10 ppm to 0.5% by
weight based on the reaction mixture comprising alcohol and carboxylic
acid/carboxylic acid derivative.

6. The use of compounds of the formula 1



5 in which R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, branched, straight-chain, cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radicals having up to 25 carbon atoms which may be substituted by heteroatoms, and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 may be identical or different, as stabilizers in the reaction between alcohols and
10 olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acids or the reactive derivatives thereof, from 1 ppm to 1% by weight, based on the weight of the reaction mixture comprising alcohol and carboxylic acid/carboxylic acid derivative, of the compound of the formula 1 being used.

15 7. A composition comprising

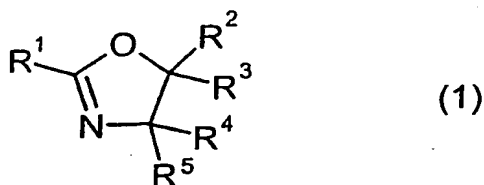
A) an alcohol

B) an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid or a reactive derivative thereof,

the molar ratio A) : B) being from 1 : 0.2 to 1 : 15,

20 and

C) 1 ppm at 1% by weight, based on the total weight of A) and B), of a compound of the formula 1



25 in which R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, branched, straight-chain, cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radicals having up to 25 carbon atoms which may be substituted by heteroatoms, and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 may be identical or different.

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